

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Applicant: : C. Harry Knowles
Serial No. : 09/994,463
Filing Date : November 26, 2001
Title of Invention : TRANSPORTABLE SCANNER INTEGRATED WWW
ACCESS TERMINAL
Examiner : n/a
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-013USANF0

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97

Sir:

In order to fulfill Applicant's continuing obligation of candor and good faith as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicant submits herewith an Information Disclosure Statement prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R Sections 1.97, 1.98 and 1.99.

The disclosures enclosed herewith are as follows:

U.S. PUBLICATIONS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
6,199,048 B1	January 15, 1999	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC ACCESS OF A REMOTE COMPUTER OVER A NETWORK
6,138,151	September 26, 1997	NET WORK NAVIGATION METHOD FOR PRINTED ARTICLES BY USING EMBEDDED CODES FOR ARTICLE- ASSOCIATED LINKS
6,108,656	May 11, 1999	AUTOMATIC ACCESS OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION THROUGH MACHINE-READABLE CODES ON PRINTED DOCUMENTS
6,081,827	June 16, 1997	NETWORK NAVIGATION METHODS

		AND SYSTEMS USING AN ARTICLE OF MAIL
6,064,979	November 19, 1996	METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR FINDING AND SERVING CONSUMER PRODUCT RELATED INFORMATION OVER THE INTERNET USING MANUFACTURER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS
6,032,195	July 31, 1998	METHOD, SYSTEM, AND ARTICLE FOR NAVIGATING AN ELECTRONIC NETWORK AND PERFORMING A TASK USING A DESTINATION-SPECIFIC SOFTWARE AGENT
6,027,024	July 3, 1997	HAND-HELD PORTABLE WWW ACCESS TERMINAL WITH VISUAL DISPLAY PANEL AND GUI-BASED WWW BROWSER PROGRAM INTEGRATED WITH BAR CODE SYMBOL READER
6,012,102	April 2, 1996	SYSTEM USING MACHINE-READABLE PRINTED SYMBOLS CREATED FROM ENCODED DATA RESOURCE SPECIFIERS TO ESTABLISH CONNECTION TO DATA RESOURCE ON DATA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
08/691,263	August 2, 1996	HAND-HELD OPTICAL READER TERMINAL WITH ERGONOMIC DESIGN
5,992,752	June 4, 1997	INTERNET-BASED SYSTEM FOR ENABLING INFORMATON-RELATED TRANSACTIONS OVER THE INTERNET USING JAVA-ENABLED INTERNET TERMINALS PROVIDED WITH BAR CODE SYMBOL READERS FOR READING JAVA-APPLET ENCODED BAR CODE SYMBOLS
5,995,105	October 4, 1996	METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING A RESOURCE IN AN ELECTRONIC NETWORK

5,979,757	December 20, 1996	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PRESENTING ITEM INFORMATION USING A PORTABLE DATA TERMINAL
5,986,651	November 7, 1996	METHOD SYSTEM, AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR PRODUCING A NETWORK NAVIGATION DEVICE
5,978,773	October 3, 1995	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR USING AN ORDINARY ARTICLE OF COMMERCE TO ACCESS A REMOTE COMPUTER
5,971,277	August 12, 1998	MECHANISM FOR RETRIEVING INFORMATION USING DATA ENCODED ON AN OBJECT
5,950,173	May 12, 1997	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DELIVERING CONSUMER PRODUCT RELATED INFORMATION TO CONSUMERS WITHIN RETAIL ENVIRONMENTS USING INTERNET-BASED INFORMATION SERVERS AND SALES AGENTS
5,938,726	October 17, 1996	APPARATUS FOR READING AN ELECTRONIC NETWORK NAVIGATION DEVICE AND A PERIPHERAL FOR USE THEREWITH
5,940,595	September 23, 1996	ELECTRONIC NETWORK NAVIGATOR DEVICE AND METHOD FOR LINKING TO AN ELECTRONIC ADDRESS THEREWITH
5,933,829	November 8, 1997	AUTOMATIC ACCESS OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION THROUGH SECURE MACHINE-READABLE CODES ON PRINTED DOCUMENTS
5,930,767	May 28, 1997	TRANSACTION METHODS SYSTEMS AND DEVICES
5,918,213	December 22, 1995	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATED REMOTE PREVIEWING

		AND PURCHASING OF MUSIC, VIDEO, SOFTWARE, AND OTHER MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTS
5,918,214	October 25, 1996	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FINDING PRODUCT AND SERVICE RELATED INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET
5,905,251	July 11, 1997	HAND-HELD PORTABLE WWW ACCESS TERMINAL WITH VISUAL DISPLAY PANEL AND GUI-BASED WWW BROWSER PROGRAM INTEGRATED WITH BAR CODE SYMBOL READER IN A HAND- SUPPORTABLE HOUSING
5,905,248	August 22, 1997	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CARRYING OUT INFORMATION- RELATED TRANSACTIONS USING WEB DOCUMENTS EMBODYING TRANSACTION ENABLING APPLETS AUTOMATICALLY LAUNCHED AND EXECUTED IN RESPONSE TO READING URL-ENCODED SYMBOLS POINTING THERETO
5,902,353	July 10, 1997	METHOD, SYSTEM, AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR NAVIGATING TO A RESOURCE IN AN ELECTRONIC NETWORK
5,903,729	July 10, 1997	METHOD, SYSTEM, AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR NAVIGATING TO A RESOURCE IN AN ELECTRONIC NETWORK
5,869,819	April 7, 1997	INTERNET-BASED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRACKING OBJECTS BEARING URL-ENCODED BAR CODE SYMBOLS
5,825,002	September 5, 1996	DEVICE AND METHOD FOR SECURE DATA UPDATES IN A SELF- CHECKOUT SYSTEM
5,804,803	April 2, 1996	MECHANISM FOR RETRIEVING INFORMATION USING DATA

		ENCODED ON AN OBJECT
5,692,073	July 30, 1996	FORMLESS FORMS AND PAPER WEB USING A REFERENCE-BASED MARK EXTRACTION TECHNIQUE
5,640,193	August 15, 1994	MULTIMEDIA SERVICE ACCESS BY READING MARKS ON AN OBJECT
5,635,694	September 27, 1993	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EMBEDDING MACHINE CODED DESTINATION INFORMATION INTO A POSTAL MARK
5,600,833	March 24, 1995	ATTRIBUTE PORTION BASED DOCUMENT RETRIEVAL SYSTEM WITH SYSTEM QUERY LANGUAGE INTERFACE
5,506,697	September 20, 1993	APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING HUMAN-READABLE AND MACHINE- READABLE DOCUMENTS
5,490,217	March 5, 1993	AUTOMATIC DOCUMENT HANDLING SYSTEM
5,448,046	August 18, 1994	ARRANGEMENT FOR AND METHOD OF EXPEDITING COMMERCIAL PRODUCT TRANSACTIONS AT A POINT-OF-SALE SITE
5,288,976	July 15, 1991	BAR CODE USE IN INFORMATION, TRANSACTIONAL AND OTHER SYSTEM AND SERVICE APPLICATIONS
5,280,498	November 27, 1991	□PACKET DATA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
5,483,052	September 8, 1998	SYSTEM FOR READING, STORING AND USING BAR-ENCODED DATA FROM A CODED BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER PRINTED MATERIAL
4,841,132	July 16, 1987	PROGRAM RECORDING SCHEDULING APPARATUS USING AN OPTICAL READER

4,654,482

November 7, 1984

HOME MERCHANDISE ORDERING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TERMINAL**FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
WO 98/51077	November 12, 1998	METHOD FOR EMBEDDING LINKS TO A NETWORKED RESOURCE IN A TRANSMISSION MEDIUM
WO 98/51035	November 12, 1998	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES VIA MACHINE- READABLE DATA ON INTELLIGENT DOCUMENTS
WO 98/38761	September 3, 1998	AUTOMATIC SERVER ACCESS IN AN INTERNETWORKED COMPUTER SYSTEM
WO 98/20411	May 14, 1998	AUTOMATIC ACCESS OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION THROUGH MACHINE-READABLE CODES ON PRINTED DOCUMENTS
EP O 856 812 A2	May 8, 1998	PORTABLE SHOPPING AND ORDER FULFILLMENT SYSTEM
WO 98/51036	November 12, 1998	SCANNER ENHANCED REMOTE CONTROL UNIT AND SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATICALLY LINKING TO ON- LINE RESOURCES
WO 98/19259	May 7, 1998	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING AND SERVING CONSUMER PRODUCT RELATED INFORMATION OVER THE INTERNET
EP O 837 406 A2	April 22, 1998	DATA RETRIEVAL SYSTEM AND METHOD
WO 98/09243	March 5, 1998	SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING EASY

ACCESS TO THE WORLD WIDE WEB

WO 98/06055	February 12, 1998	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM A COMPUTER NETWORK USING A SCANNER AND BROWSER
WO 98/03923	January 20, 1998	WORLD WIDE WEB BAR CODE ACCESS SYSTEM
WO 97/37319	October 9, 1997	A MECHANISM FOR RETRIEVING INFORMATION USING DATA ENCODED ON AN OBJECT
WO 97/01137	January 9, 1997	SYSTEM FOR USING ARTICLE OF COMMERCE TO ACCESS REMOTE COMPUTER
EP 0 744 856 A2	November 27, 1996	APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF UTILIZING PRODUCT IDENTIFIER CODES TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION CONNECTIONS
0 645 728 A2	March 29, 1995	REMOTE CONTROLLER AND TELEPHONE INCORPORATING BAR CODE READING FACILITIES

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

Press Release entitled "AllPen Software Announces NetHopper at PC Expo" by Allpen Software, Inc., www.allpen.com, June 18, 1996, 1 page.

Scientific publication entitled "ZooWorks' Automatic Catalogs Enable Easy URL Sharing" by Gess Shankar, InfoWorld, <http://www.infoworld.com>, April 21, 1997.

Product Brochure for the NetHopper 2.0 by AllPen Software, Inc., 1997, pages 1-2.

Scientific publication entitled "Bookmarks" by David Noack, Web Guide Magazine, Premiere 1997, pages 33-35.

Scientific publication entitled "Magazine Guides That Help the Surfers" by John Burks, New York Times, November 25, 1996, pages 1-2.

Product review for the IRIS IRISPen by Image Recognition Integrated Systems, Inc., MacUser, July 1996, pages 54-55.

Scientific publication entitled "World-Wide Web: The Information Universe" by Tim Berners-Lee, Robert Cailliau, Jean-Francois Groff and Bernd Pollermann; CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, 1996.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTS

<u>App. No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
PCT/US97/21443	November 24, 1997
PCT/US97/21975	November 24, 1997
PCT/US97/21970	November 24, 1997

STATEMENT OF PERTINENCE

U.S. Patent No. US 6,199,048 B1 to Hudetz et al. discloses a method of and system for accessing remote computers on a network using identification codes found on ordinary articles of commerce. As disclosed, a computer is provided having a database that relates Uniform Product Code ("UPC") numbers to Internet network addresses (or "URLs"). To access an Internet resource relating to a particular product, a user enters the product's UPC symbol manually, by swiping a bar code reader over the UPC symbol, or via other suitable input means. The database retrieves the URL corresponding to the UPC code. This location information is then used to access the desired information resource.

U.S. Patent No. 6,138,151 to Reber, et al. discloses in Fig. 5, a method of navigating an electronic network similar to the method disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,199,048 B1. Specifically, a bar code symbol printed on a printed article is read by a bar code reader that is connected to a network accessing device (e.g. Internet-enabled computer). The network accessing device accesses a remote database and transmits a portion of the bar code symbol thereto, where it is translated into an electronic address corresponding to the bar code symbol. The electronic address is then transmitted back to the network accessing device, whereupon the corresponding information resource is accessed and displayed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,108,656 to Durst et al. discloses a method of and system for providing automated access to electronic information stored in a database at either a local or remote location. The system utilizes a machine-readable code printed on a document. The machine-readable code symbol comprises encoded source data, wherein the source data comprises application launch information as well as file location information. The source data is encoded and printed, and then distributed by the vendor to the end user. The end user then scans the code symbol via appropriate code scanning (e.g. bar code scanning) equipment, decodes the raw decoded data, and the file location information is then used to access the appropriate information file.

U.S. Patent No. 6,081,827 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for delivering a message to an electronic address on an electronic network. As disclosed, the method involves reading a bar code symbol printed on or associated with an article of mail, wherein the bar code symbol uniquely identifies the article of mail to the delivery service. After the recipient receives the article of mail, the recipient uses a bar code symbol reader to read the bar code symbol, and using at least a portion of the bar code read by the recipient, the electronic address of the sender of the article of mail is determined. Then, a digital computing device, operably connected to the bar code reader, is used by the recipient to communicate a message to the electronic address of the sender.

U.S. Patent No. 6,064,979 to Perkowski discloses a method of and system for finding and serving consumer product-related information on the Internet comprising a database serving subsystem which stores: a plurality of manufacturer identification numbers (MINs) assigned to a plurality of manufacturers of consumer products; a plurality of home-page specifying URLs symbolically linked to the plurality of MINs; a plurality of universal product numbers (UPN) assigned to a plurality of consumer products made by the plurality of manufacturers; and a plurality of product-information specifying URLs symbolically linked to the plurality of UPNs. During operation, a client subsystem transmits to the database serving subsystem, a request for information which includes the UPN assigned to the consumer product on which product-related information is being sought. The database serving subsystem automatically compares the UPN against the stored plurality of MINs, and automatically returns to the client subsystem, one or more of URLs symbolically linked to the UPN, if URLs have been symbolically linked to the UPN within the database serving subsystem. However, if no URLs have been symbolically linked to the UPN, then the database serving subsystem automatically returns the home-page specifying URL symbolically linked to the MIN contained within the UPN in the request. By virtue of this novel MIN-based search mechanism embodied within the database serving subsystem, client subsystems are automatically provided with the home-page of the manufacturer's World Wide Web (WWW) site in situations where product-information specifying URLs have not yet been symbolically linked with the UPN on any one of the manufacturer's products.

U.S. Patent No. 6,032,195 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for navigating an electronic network to a destination address, and automatically performing a task at the destination using a software agent. The method involves reading a bar code symbol printed on or associated with a physical navigation device (e.g. a paper or plastic card or other substrate). The bar code symbol encodes either the electronic address for the destination, or alternatively, a code which is translatable to the electronic address for the destination using an address translation service. As disclosed, the destination electronic address can be at least a portion of a URL, a URN, an IP address, or an e-mail address. The user uses a bar code symbol reader to read the bar code symbol, and using the bar code read, the electronic address of the destination is determined, and a task is automatically performed at the destination using a software agent.

U.S. Letters Patent No. 6,027,024 to Knowles discloses a hand-held portable Internet access terminal having a visual display panel and a GUI-based web browser program integrated with a bar code symbol reader.

U.S. Letters Patent No. 6,012,102 to Schchar, like US Patent No. 5,640,193 to Wellner, discloses in Fig. 1, a system for accessing a HTML-encoded document stored on an electronic network (e.g. WWW) at a particular electronic address (i.e. Uniform Resource Locator --URL-- or Internet Protocol --IP--address), by reading a URL or IP address encoded bar code symbol with a bar code reader that is operably connected to a computer-based (Internet-enabled) data communications terminal.

U.S. Application Serial No. 08/691,263 by Swift et al. (cited as a priority application is published EPO Application No. EP 0 837 406 A2), discloses several different types of mobile hand-held bar code symbol reading devices. The first type of mobile hand-held bar code symbol reading device is shown in Figs. 1-8 and described at Page 25, lines 29-35 of US Application No. 08/691,263. As shown in Figs. 1-8, the device is realized in the form of a mobile hand-held bar code symbol reader 1 having a small liquid crystal display 15 specifically designed for displaying "information relating to the mode of operation of the reader, or display check information relating to the item carrying the bar code symbol being read together with background information such as the time, date, and confirmation of the operator's identify."

In a manner similar to that taught in US Patent No. 5,640,193 to Wellner, US Application No. 08/691,263 discloses on Page 27, lines 28-31 encoding the URL address of web sites "in a bar code symbol and read(ing) the bar code symbol with the reader for automatic access to the corresponding web site". Also, Page 27, lines 32-34 of US Application No. 08/691,263 discloses that "the reader may be used to interface with a terminal for entry of the URL address or could be used independently." Notably, this suggestion is essentially the same arrangement taught in the Wellner reference, wherein the URL read by a mobile bar code symbol reader is provided to a separate Internet terminal (e.g. having an Internet browser program, a visual display screen, and keyboard) to enable automatic access to the information resource on the WWW at the URL encoded in the bar code symbol read by the mobile bar code symbol reader.

The second type of mobile hand-held bar code symbol reading device is shown in Fig. 9 and described on Page 50 in US Application No. 08/691,263. As disclosed therein, the device is realized in the form of a mobile hand-held computer unit 20 (shown in Fig. 9) having a hand-held housing, an LCD panel, and a "reader or Browser for scanning a high density bar code label that contains a program script such as HTML, VB script or a specialized compressed version of either." As disclosed, the "script is parsed and interpreted by the Browser which constructs a user interface at run time and presents it to the user. The user interacts with the interface by scanning data labels and interacting with any of the program's controls presented to the user to properly process the data."

As disclosed on Page 51 and at lines 1-14 of Page 52 in US Application No. 08/691,263, the shipper of goods can distribute a program script label (e.g. a HTML or VB file encoded in the structure of a bar code label) and a data containing label with the goods being shipped; and the receiver of the goods can scan the program script label to create an interface (on the mobile hand-held computer unit) at run time, and then process the data read in the data label printed on the container of the goods.

As disclosed at lines 30-34 of Page 50 in US Application No. 08/691,263, "using this new system, any computer system equipped with a general purpose interface reader application (Browser 300) can create an interface 'on the fly' that is capable of reading processing information on the accompanying data record labels." This interface reader application, termed "Browser" in Application No. 08/691,263 and indicated by reference number 300 in Fig. 18, is

shown therein as comprising: a bar code acquisition engine 304; a parsing engine 305; a printing engine 306 with a printed data interface 307; and a communications engine 308 with a communications input/output interface 309.

A careful review of the technical disclosure of US Application No. 08/691,263 reveals that the interface reader application (i.e. "Browser" 300) therein is specifically configured for creating (i.e. programming) customized user interfaces on the display screen of the mobile handheld computer unit 20, by reading bar code labels encoded with a "program script" expressed as an HTML or Visual Basic (VB) file, so that once the user interface is displayed on the display screen of the mobile computer unit, the information contained in data record (bar code) labels can be entered therein by reading the bar code labels and thereafter processed therewithin as the particular application requires.

U.S. Patent No. 5,992,752 to Wilz et al. discloses a method of and system for enabling information-related transactions over the Internet using Java-enabled internet terminals provided with bar code symbol readers for reading Java-applet encoded bar code symbols.

U.S. Patent No. 5,995,105 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for automatically linking a user to an information resource at a network address on an electronic network. The system comprises a physical network navigation device (e.g. plastic or paper card or substrate) bearing a human-viewable image (e.g. logo) indicative of the information resource in the electronic network, and also a machine-readable code (e.g. bar code symbol) which is encoded with the network address (e.g. URL, IP address, etc.). The machine readable code is read by a data reader, and produces data representative of the network address, which is communicated to a network access device (e.g. network computer, internet television or portable wireless device) having a display device. The network access device then uses the network address to access the information resource and display the same on the display device. Alternatively, the machine readable code is read by a data reader, and produces data representative of the information resource, which is communicated by a network access device (e.g. network computer, internet television or portable wireless device) having a display device, to a node which translates (e.g. converts) the code into an network address for the information resource. The network access device then uses the network address to link to the information resource and then communicates the content thereof to the user for display on the display device.

U.S. Patent No. 5,979,757 to Tracey et al. discloses a portable shopping system, in which a portable terminal includes a bar code symbol reader for identifying items for sale (i.e. by reading bar code symbols thereon), and an audio and visual presentation device for providing customer-specific marketing files to the customer in order to promote the sale of the identified item.

U.S. Patent No. 5,986,651 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for automatically linking a user to information resources located at network address on an electronic network. The system comprises a physical network navigation device or network address guide (e.g. plastic or paper card or substrate) bearing a plurality of human-readable images (e.g. textual information) indicative of a plurality of information resources in the electronic network, and also a plurality of machine-readable codes (e.g. bar code symbols), each being encoded with one of a network address (e.g. URL, IP address, etc.) associated with one of the plurality of information resources. In accordance with the disclosed method of network navigation, a human uses a data

reader (e.g. bar code reader) to read a machine readable code (e.g. bar code symbol) associated with a human-readable image (e.g. WWW site name) of an information resource which the human seeks to access. The data reader produces data representative of the network address, which is communicated to a network access device (e.g. network computer, internet television or portable wireless device) having a display device. The network access device then uses the network address to automatically access the information resource and display the same on the display device. US Patent No. 5,986,651 further discloses in Fig. 15, a method of producing a network navigation device, as described above, based on a browsing history of the end user. As indicated at Block 210 in Fig. 15, the method includes browsing a plurality of information resources on the information network. As indicated at Block 212, the method includes recording a browsing history based on the plurality of information resources browsed. As disclosed, the recording step can include recording an electronic address for each browsed information resource, recording a respective image for each information resource, included in the content thereof, recording a sequence in which the information resources were browsed, and recording a hierarchy of the information resources in the information network.

U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773 to Hudetz, et al discloses a solution to the problem presented by the system and method of US Patent No. 5,640,193. This solution involves the use of a UPC/URL database, as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,199,048 B1, in order to translate UPC numbers (and other unique codes) read from consumer products by a bar code scanner, into the URLs of information resources on the WWW relating to the UPC-labeled consumer product.

U.S. Patent No. 5,971,277 to Cragun et al. discloses, at lines 34-53 in Column 7 and in Figs 1B and 3 thereof, a system for serving product information to consumers using a UPC product database (136 in Figs 1B and 3), similar to the one disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773 to Hudetz, et al, WIPO Publication No. WO 97/01137 (Hudetz, et al./Solar Communications, Inc.) and EPO Publication No. EPO744856 (Penzias/ATT&T IPM, Inc.) As disclosed in US Patent No. 5,971,277, a bar code symbol reader (118) connected to a client computer system (104, 106, 112) is used to read a UPC (117) on a consumer product (115), and then the recovered UPC number is used to access the UPC product database (136) and access URL information (325) keyed to the inputted UPC number. The client computer system (102) then uses the URL to access product information (such as product name, unit price, and product location in store) for display to the consumer.

U.S. Patent 5,950,173 to Perkowski discloses a method of and system for finding and serving consumer product-related information over the Internet to consumers in retail shopping environments, as well as at home and work, and on the road. The system includes Internet information servers which store information pertaining to Universal Product Number (e.g. UPC number) preassigned to each consumer product registered with the system, along with a list of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) that point to the location of one or more information resources on the Internet, e.g. World Wide Web-sites, which related to such registered consumer products. Upon entering the UPC number into the system using a conventional Internet browser program running on a computing system, the menu of URLs associated with the entered UPC number is automatically displayed for user selection. The displayed menus of URLs are categorically arranged according to specific types of product information such as, for example: product specifications and operation manuals; product wholesalers and retailers; product advertisements and promotions; product endorsements; product updates and reviews; product

warranty/servicing; related or complementary products; product incentives including rebates, discounts and/or coupons; manufacturer's annual report and 10K information; electronic stock purchase; etc. Web-based techniques are disclosed for collecting the UPC/URL information from manufacturers and transmitting the same to the Internet-based databases of the system.

U.S. Patent No. 5,938,726 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for automatically linking a user to an information resource at a network address on an electronic network. The system comprises a physical network navigation device (e.g. plastic or paper card or substrate) bearing a human-viewable image (e.g. logo) indicative of the information resource in the electronic network, and also a machine-readable code (e.g. bar code symbol) which is encoded with the network address (e.g. URL, IP address, etc.). The machine readable code is read by a data reader, which produces data representative of the network address. The network address is communicated to a network access device (e.g. network computer, internet television or portable wireless device) having a display device. The network access device then uses the network address to access the information resource and display the same on the display device. Alternatively, the machine readable code is read by a data reader, and produces data representative of the information resource, which is communicated by a network access device (e.g. network computer, internet television or portable wireless device) having a display device, to a node which translates the code to a network address for the information resource. The network access device then uses the network address to link to the information resource and then communicates the content thereof to the user for display on the display device.

U.S. Patent No. 5,940,595 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for navigating an electronic network, wherein a bar code reader connected to an Internet-enabled computer system shown in Fig. 7 is used to read a URL-encoded bar code label printed on a network navigation device (e.g. document), and the URL is then provided to the computer system to access the information resource on the electronic network, and display the same on the display screen of the computer system.

U.S. Patent No. 5,933,829 to Durst et al. discloses a method of and system for providing secure automated access to an electronic information file stored in a database at either a local or remote location. The system utilizes a machine-readable code symbol printed on a document. The machine-readable code symbol is encoded with source data (including a file location pointer) that is first obfuscated by generating a checksum of the source data, encrypting the source data by using the checksum as an encryption key, and assembling the checksum with the encrypted source data prior to encoding. The machine-readable code symbol is then printed and distributed by the vendor to the end user. The end user then scans the code via appropriate code scanning (e.g. bar code scanning) equipment, and de-obfuscates the scanned data by parsing the checksum, decrypting the remainder of the scanned data string (which includes the file location pointer) using the parsed checksum as a decryption key, computing a checksum of the decrypted data string, and comparing the computed checksum with the parsed checksum to determine the validity of the code. The file location pointer is then used to access the appropriate information file.

U.S. Patent No. 5,930,767 to Reber et al. discloses a computer-assisted transaction method involving the use of a transaction terminal having a bar code symbol reader. The bar code reader is used to first read a first data element encoded within a first bar code on a

substrate, so as to indicate an item in a transaction. Then the bar code reader is used to read a second data element encoded within in a second bar code so as to indicate a party to the party transaction. The second data element is then authenticated, and upon authentication, the transaction is approved, and a record thereof is created.

U.S. Patent No. 5,918,213 to Bernard, et al. discloses a method of and system for automated previewing and purchasing of music, video, software and other multimedia products using a remote communication medium such as a telephone, a direct data link, or a network connection (e.g. Internet).

U.S. Patent No. 5,918,214 to Perkowski discloses a method of and system for finding product and service related information on the Internet. The system includes Internet Servers which store information pertaining to Universal Product or Service Number (e.g. UPC number) preassigned to each product and service registered in the system, with Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) that point to the location of one or more information resources on the Internet, e.g. World Wide Websites, related to such product or services. Each client computer system includes an Internet browser provided with an "Internet Product/Service Information (IPSI) Finder" button and a "Universal Product/Service Number (UPSN) Search" button. The system enters its "IPSI Finder Mode" when the "IPSI Finder" button is depressed and enters the "UPSN Search Mode" when the "UPSN Search" button is depressed. When the system is in its IPSI Finder Mode, a predesignated information resource (e.g. advertisement, product information, etc.) pertaining to any commercial product or service registered with the system is automatically accessed from the Internet and displayed from the Internet browser by simply entering the registered product's UPN or the registered service's USN into the Internet browser. When the system is in its "UPSN Search Mode," a predesignated information resource pertaining to any commercial product or service registered with the system is automatically accessed from the Internet and displayed from the Internet browser by simply entering the registered product's trademark(s) or (servicemark) and/or associated company name into the Internet browser.

U.S. Patent No. 5,905,251 to Knowles discloses a method of and system for accessing information resources on the WWW by reading URL-encoded bar code symbols printed on objects using a mobile Internet-access terminal having an integrated bar code symbol reader and Web-enabled browser program.

U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,905,248 to Russell et al. discloses a transaction-enabling method and system, wherein a transaction-enabling Java-Applet is embedded within an HTML-encoded document stored in an HTTP server at predetermined URL. When a code symbol (e.g., magstripe or bar code) encoded with the URL is read using a code symbol reader interfaced with a Java-enabled Internet terminal, the corresponding HTTP document is automatically accessed and displayed at the terminal, and the transaction-enabling Java-Applet initiated for execution so that the customer, consumer or client desiring the transaction can simply and conveniently conduct the information-related transaction over the Internet.

U.S. Patent No. 5,902,353 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for automatically linking a user to information resources located at network addresses on an electronic network. The system comprises using a data reader (e.g. OCR device or page reader) for capturing an image of a network navigation device or network address guide (e.g. plastic or

paper card or substrate). As shown in Fig. 2, the navigation device bears a plurality of printed human-readable images (e.g. textual information) indicative of a plurality of information resources in the electronic network, and also a plurality of machine-readable codes (e.g. bar code symbols) printed on the network navigation device, each encoded with a network address (e.g. URL, IP address, etc.) associated with an information resource. Then, an electronic image of the read data produced by the data reader, is supplied to a computer programmed to recognize the characters, images and textual information representative of navigational instructions (i.e. URLs) to information resources on the electronic network. The recognized data is used to create a data structure representative of a URL list (i.e. menu) which contains URLs and related information recognized in the electronic image. As shown in Fig. 6, the URL list is then displayed to the user in a menu bar 200 of an Internet browser display screen. From the list, the user can select a displayed indication of an information resource, and in response thereto, automatically connect to the information resource over the electronic network, receive the content of the information resource, and display the same on browser display screen. Information resources indicated on the browser display screen can be tagged by the user to indicate that a particular information resource has been accessed or should be accessed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,903,729 to Reber et al. discloses a method of and system for automatically linking a user to an information resource located at a network address on an electronic network. The system comprises using a data reader (e.g. OCR device or page reader) for capturing an image of a network navigation device or network address guide (e.g. plastic or paper card or substrate). As shown in Fig. 2, the network navigation device bears a plurality of printed human-readable images (e.g. textual information) indicative of a plurality of information resources in the electronic network, and also a plurality of machine-readable codes (e.g. bar code symbols) printed on the network navigation device, each encoded with a network address (e.g. URL, IP address, etc.) associated with an information resource. Then, an electronic image of the read data produced by the data reader, is supplied to a computer programmed to recognize the characters, images and textual information representative of navigational instructions (i.e. URLs) to information resources on the electronic network. The recognized data is used to create a data structure representative of a URL list (or menu) which contains URLs and related information recognized in the electronic image. As shown in Fig. 6, the URL list or menu is then displayed to the user in a menu bar 200 of an Internet browser display screen. From this menu the user can select a displayed indication of an information resource, and in response thereto, automatically connect to the information resource over the electronic network, receive the content of the information resource, and display the same on browser display screen. Information resources indicated on the browser display screen can be tagged by the user to indicate that a particular information resources has been accessed or should be accessed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,869,819 by Knowles et al. discloses a method of and system for tracking objects (e.g. packages) bearing URL-encoded bar code symbols.

U.S. Patent No. 5,825,002 to Roslak discloses a data processing and retrieval system for use in a self-checkout system utilized in a retail facility. A plurality of customers are provided with portable data collecting terminals, each having a bar code reader. Once the data is collected using the portable data terminal, a record of the session is uploaded to a customer's data file upon the entry of an authorization code. In the event errors occur during data entry, or in the entry of the authorization codes, a customer service desk is provided which assists the customer

in completing the transaction.

U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,804,803 discloses, in Column 7 at lines 35-59 and Figs. 1B and 3 thereof, a system for serving product information to consumers using a UPC product database (136 in Figs 1B and 3), similar to the one disclosed in US Patent No. 5,978,773 to Hudetz, et al. EPO Publication No. WO 97/01137 (Hudetz, et al./Solar Communications, Inc.) and EPO Publication No. EPO744856 (Penzias/AT&T IPM, Inc. As disclosed in US Patent No. 5,804,803, a bar code symbol reader (118) connected to a client computer system (104, 106, 112) is used to read a UPC (117) on a consumer product (117), and then the recovered UPC number is used to access the UPC product database (136) and access URL information (325) keyed to the inputted UPC number. The client computer system (102) then uses the URL to access product information (such as product name, unit price, and product location in store) for display to the consumer.

U.S. Patent No. 5,640,193 to Wellner discloses a scanner for reading bar codes encoded with a network address (e.g. URL) pointing to an information resource on an information network. When the bar code symbol is read, the information resource is automatically assessed for display by the user.

U.S. Patent No. 5,635,694 to Tuhro discloses a method of and system for embedding a postal code in a postal mark. The system includes a scanner for scanning a destination zip code for a piece of mail, and a control unit, connected to the scanner, for converting the destination zip code to zip code glyphs. The zip code glyphs are then embedded into a predetermined portion of a bit map representing the postal mark.

U.S. Patent No. 5,506,697 to Li et al. discloses encoding multiple pages of information into a 2-D bar code symbol and applying the bar code symbol to a facsimile document which is transmitted over a distance. When reproduced at the destination address, the 2-D bar code symbol is read and the pages of information contained therein are accessed and displayed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,490,217 to Wang et al. discloses a method of and system for the filing, retrieving, verifying, translating, exchanging and updating documents by scanning documents into a programmed computer system. As disclosed, the computer system generates or assigns to each scanned-in document, a two-dimensionable machine readable image code containing content and identifying information about the document, as well as information about the document format, and processing instructions.

U.S. Patent No. 5,448,046 to Swartz discloses a method of updating inventory markings by reading bar code symbols on products using a portable bar code symbol reader, and then using such bar code information to access product price and identity information from a database.

U.S. Patent No. 5,288,976 to Citron et al. discloses using a bar code reader connected to a telephone network, to read bar codes having instructions and commands encoded therein relating to particular kinds of action to be taken (e.g. dial action).

U.S. Patent No. 5,280,498 to Tymes et al. discloses a packet data communication system,

wherein wireless hand-held bar code scanning terminals are arranged in wireless RF communication with base units deployed within the system.

U.S. Patent No. 5,483,052 to Smith, III et al. discloses the use of a bar code symbol scanner to read high density business information printed on a business card.

U.S. Patent No. 4,841,132 to Kajitani et al. discloses a wand-type bar code symbol reader to reading bar codes that are encoded with programming information for programming channels, dates, start times and the like in a video tape recorder (VCR) unit.

U.S. Patent No. 4,654,482 to DeAngelis discloses a telecommunications terminal that employs a bar code symbol reading wand for use in ordering merchandise in a catalog by reading bar code symbols printed therein.

WIPO Application Publication No. WO 98/51077 discloses a method for providing a link between an information signal (e.g. broadcast, cable television and/or radio signal) and networked information resources on the Internet.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/51035 discloses a method and system for accessing electronic resources on the World Wide Web (WWW) by reading machine-readable data (e.g. a URL-encoded bar code symbols) printed on documents.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/38761 discloses method of and system for accessing information resources on the WWW by reading a URL-encoded bar code symbol printed on a document. As disclosed, a bar code symbol reader is used to read a URL-encoded bar code symbol, and a Web-enabled browser program, operably connected to the bar code reader, accesses the information resource located at the URL, and displays the same for viewing by the user.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/20411 discloses a method of and system for providing automated access to electronic information stored in a database at either a local or remote location. The system utilizes a machine-readable code printed on a document. The machine-readable symbol comprises encoded source data, wherein the source data comprises application launch information as well as file location information. The source data is encoded and printed, and then distributed by the vendor to the end user. The end user then scans the code via appropriate code scanning (e.g. bar code scanning) equipment, decodes the raw decoded data, and the file location information is then used to access the appropriate file.

EPO Publication No. EP 0 856 812 A2 discloses a portable shopping and order fulfillment system, wherein a portable data terminal having a bar code symbol reader is used to read bar code symbols on consumer products in order to look up pricing and other product information maintained within the retailer's database.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/51036 discloses a scanner-enhanced remote control unit and system for automatically linking to on-line information resources. As disclosed, the scanner-enhanced remote control unit includes a bar code symbol reader for reading URL-encoded bar code symbols printed on documents, and automatically linking to the information

resource located at the encoded URL.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/19259, like U.S. Patent No. 6,199,048 B1 discloses using a bar code symbol reader to read a UPC label on product which, in turn, is used to access a corresponding menu of URLs in the database for accessing categorically arranged HTML-encoded documents on the WWW by selecting URLs using a client computer having an Internet browser program.

EPO Publication No. EP 0 837 406 A2, like corresponding published U.S. Application No. 08/691,263, discloses that by "using this new system, any computer system equipped with a general purpose interface reader application (Browser 300) can create an interface 'on the fly' that is capable of reading processing information on the accompanying data record labels." Also, as disclosed therein, the interface reader application, termed "Browser" in Application No. 08/691,263 and indicated by reference number 300 in Fig. 18, is shown therein as comprising: a bar code acquisition engine 304; a parsing engine 305; a printing engine 306 with a printed data interface 307; and a communications engine 308 with a communications input/output interface 309.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/09243 discloses the use of four-digit jump codes which can be used to access the URL of a desired web site stored in a database accessible from a preselected web site (e.g. JumpCity Web Site). When the user is on-line with the special web site, entering in the four digit jump code automatically links the user to the Web site (corresponding to the jump code) to the JumpCity Web site, thus providing immediate access to the desired Web site for the user, without inputting the URL or address of the Web site.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/06055 discloses, in Fig. 23 and at lines 1-5 of Page 8, using a connector 221 to connect a bar code scanner device 219 to the I/O port 220a of a portable digital assistant (PDA) containing an Internet browser 106 and decoder software 115, so that an operator can scan a URL-encoded bar code and automatically address a Web page specified thereby. As disclosed, the PDA 220 is connected to the Internet and/or Intranet computer network via a wireless connection 218.

WIPO Publication No. WO 98/03923 discloses a system for enabling a user to access information resources on the Internet (e.g. World Wide Web) by reading a resource link bar code printed on a physical object, similar to that disclosed in US Patent Nos. 6,199,048 B1 and 6,108,656.

WIPO Publication No. WO 97/37319 discloses, at lines 13-32 on Page 12 and in Figs 1B and 3 thereof, a system for serving product information to consumers using a UPC product database (136 in Figs 1B and 3), similar to the one disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773 to Hudetz, et al., EPO Publication No. WO 97/01137 (Hudetz, et al./Solar Communications, Inc.) and EPO Publication No. EPO744856 (Penzias/ATT&T IPM, Inc. As disclosed in WIPO publication No. WO 97/37319, a bar code symbol reader (118) connected to a client computer system (104, 106, 112) is used to read a UPC (117) on a consumer product (115), and then the recovered UPC number is used to access the UPC product database (136) and access URL information (325) keyed to the inputted UPC number. The client computer system (102) then uses the URL to access product information (such as product name, unit price, and product

location in store) for display to the consumer.

WIPO Publication No. WO 97/01137 discloses using a bar code symbol reader 44 to read a UPC label 48 on a product which, in turn, is used to access a corresponding URL in database 60 for accessing a HTML-encoded document on the WWW by providing the accessed URL to a client computer 28 having an Internet browser program.

EPO Publication No. EP 0 744 856 A2 discloses a method of and apparatus for establishing communication connections using a bar code symbol reader 112 to read a UPC label 112 on product which, in turn, is used to access a corresponding network address in database 141 for accessing an information service 150 on a communication network (e.g. PTSN or WWW) by using the accessed network address to establish a communication connection between the user's computer terminal 120 and the multi-media information service 150.

EPO Publication No. EP 0 645 728 A2 discloses in Fig. 9A thereof a hand-held portable remote controller for a TV and VCR which includes a bar code symbol reader for enabling the user to scan in program times from bar code symbols printed in TV guides.

The 1996 Press Release entitled "AllPen Software Announces NetHopper at PC Expo" by S&S Public Relations, Inc. describes the NetHopper (2.0) GUI-based WWW browser program which is designed for use on the Newton 2.0 Operating System.

The April 21, 1997 Infoworld article (page 64H) describes the "ZooWorks Research for Teams" program (version 1.0) from Hitachi Computer Products, Inc. which automatically records and indexes each web page visited by every member of a workgroup running the program and creates a database of searchable web pages which is accessible using any web browser.

The 1997 Product Brochure entitled "NetHopper 2.0" by AllPen Software, Inc. provides a product description of the NetHopper 2.0 GUI-based WWW browser program and its system requirements for use with the Newton Messagepad 120 running the Newton 2.0 Operating System.

The 1997 Web-Guide Magazine article "Bookmarks" (pages 33-35) describes several different URL management programs that can be used in connection with conventional browser programs. These programs enable users to easily manage "bookmarks" i. e. URLs of web sites, as well as importing images therefrom for future use.

The New York Times article entitled "Magazine Guides That Help the Surfers" describes several prior art magazines that list the URLs of popular Web sites published on the WWW.

The MacUser® product review of "IRIS IRISPen" describes an OCR program designed to read information printed on paper into a computer system.


The paper entitled "World Wide Web: the Information Universe (1992)" by Tim Berners-Lee et al discloses the data model and protocols required to implement the World Wide Web (WWW), and compares them with various prior art systems.

A separate listing of the above references on PTO Form 1449 and a copy of these references are enclosed herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-1340. A copy of this page is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 21, 2003


Thomas J. Perkowski
Reg. No. 33,134
Attorney for Applicants
Thomas J. Perkowski, Esq., P.C.
Soundview Plaza
1266 East Main Street
Stamford, Connecticut 06902
203-357-1950
<http://www.tjpatlaw.com>

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

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Application Number	09/994,463
Filing Date	November 26, 2001
First Name Inventor	C. Harry Knowles
Group Art Unit	2876
Examiner Name	n/a
Attorney Docket Number	108-013USANF0

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Intn'l Class / Sub Class
		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		6,199,048 B1		Hudetz et al.	03/06/2001	G06F 3/05
		6,138,151		Reber et al.	10/24/2000	
		6,108,656		Durst et al.	08/22/2000	
		6,081,827		Reber et al.	06/27/2000	G06F 15/16
		6,064,979		Perkowski	05/16/2000	G06F 17/60
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		6,027,024		Knowles	02/22/2000	G06K 7/10
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		5,992,752		Wilz, Sr. et al.	11/30/1999	G06K 7/10
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		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		5,979,757		Tracy et al.	11/09/1999	
		5,986,651		Reber et al.	11/06/1999	G06F 3/00
		5,978,773		Hudetz et al.	11/02/1999	
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		5,940,595		Reber et al.	08/17/1999	G06F 15/16
		5,933,829		Durst et al.	08/03/1999	G06F 017/00
		5,930,767		Reber et al.	07/27/1999	G06F 17/00
		5,918,213		Bernard et al.	06/29/1999	G06F 17/60
		5,918,214		Perkowski	06/29/1999	G06F 17/00
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		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		5,902,353		Reber et al.	05/11/1999	G06F 15/16
		5,903,729		Reber et al.	05/11/1999	07/10/97
		5,869,819		Knowles et al.	02/09/1999	G06K 07/10
		5,825,002		Roslak	10/20/1998	
		5,804,803		Cragun et al.	09/08/1998	G06K7/10
		5,692,073		Cass	11/25/1997	G06K9/00
		5,640,193		Wellner	06/17/1997	H04N 7/173
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		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
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		5,483,052		Smith, III et al.	12/07/1993	G06K 7/10
		4,841,132		Kajitani et al.	06/20/1989	G06K 7/10
		4,654,482		DeAngelis	03/31/1987	H04M 11/00

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		Press Release entitled "AllPen Software Announces NetHopper at PC Expo" by Allpen Software, Inc., www.allpen.com , June 18, 1996, 1 page.
		Scientific publication entitled "ZooWorks' Automatic Catalogs Enable Easy URL Sharing" by Gess Shankar, InfoWorld, http://www.infoworld.com , April 21, 1997.
		Product Brochure for the NetHopper 2.0 by AllPen Software, Inc., 1997, pages 1-2.
		Scientific publication entitled "Bookmarks" by David Noack, Web Guide Magazine, Premiere 1997, pages 33-35.
		Scientific publication entitled "Magazine Guides That Help the Surfers" by John Burks, New York Times, November 25, 1996, pages 1-2.
		Product review for the IRIS IRISPen by Image Recognition Integrated Systems, Inc., MacUser, July 1996, pages 54-55.
		Scientific publication entitled "World-Wide Web: The Information Universe" by Tim Berners-Lee, Robert Cailliau, Jean-Francois Groff and Bernd Pollermann; CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, 1996.

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		Numbe r	Kind Code (if known)					
		PCT	WO 98/51077		Neomedia Technologies, Inc.; Ft. Myers FL	11/12/1998		
		PCT	WO 98/51035		Neomedia Technologies, Inc.; Ft. Myers FL	11/12/1998		
		PCT	WO 98/38761		Neomedia Technologicce, Inc.; Ft. Myers FL	09/03/1998		
		PCT	WO 98/20411		Neomedia Technologies, Inc.	05/14/1998		
		EP	EP O 856 812 A2		Symbol Technologies, Inc.	05/08/1998	G06K 17/00	
		PCT	WO 98/51036		Neomedia Technologies, Inc.; Ft. Myers FL	11/12/1998		
		PCT	WO 98/19259		Thomas J. Perkowski; Darien, CT	05/07/1998		
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		PCT	WO 98/09243		Internet Media Corporation; Brooklyn, NY	03/05/1998		
		PCT	WO 98/06055		Jeffrey-Alan rapaport and Seymour Alvin Rapaport	02/12/1998		
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		PCT	WO 97/37319		International Business Machines	10/09/1997		
		PCT	WO 97/01137		Solar Communications, Inc.	01/09/1997		

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		Numbe r	Kind Code (if known)					
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		PCT International Search Report for PCT/US97/21443, 1997
		PCT International Search Report for PCT/US97/21975, 1997

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance not considered. Include c py of this form with next communication to applicant.

(INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT – SECTION 9 PTO-1449)